

EXCLUSION REQUEST NO. 9

a. Product Name: Hot-Rolled Transformation-Induced Plasticity (“TRIP”) Steel
 HTSUS Classification: 7225.30.7000

b. Technical Description:

NSC seeks product exclusions for varieties of Transformation-Induced Plasticity Hot-Rolled Steel (“TRIP Hot-Rolled Steel”) meeting the following product characteristics:

Variety 1	<u>chemical composition:</u> carbon content up to 0.21%, by weight; silicon content up to 2.20%, by weight; manganese content up to 1.80%, by weight phosphorus content up to 0.025% sulfur content up to 0.010% <u>physical & mechanical properties:</u> thickness range of 1.400 to 6.000 mm (inclusive); minimum yield point (MPA) of 390; minimum tensile strength (MPA) of 590; minimum elongation of 25% if 1,400 mm to 1,999 mm thickness range; minimum elongation of 26% if 2,000 mm to 2,499 mm thickness range; minimum elongation of 27% if 2,500 mm to 3,249 mm thickness range; minimum elongation of 28% if 3,250 mm to 3,999 mm thickness range; minimum elongation of 28% if 4,000 mm to 6.000 mm thickness range
Variety 2	<u>chemical composition:</u> carbon content up to 0.23%, by weight; silicon content up to 2.20%, by weight; manganese content up to 2.00%, by weight phosphorus content up to 0.025% sulfur content up to 0.010% <u>physical & mechanical properties:</u> thickness range of 1.400 to 6.000 mm (inclusive); minimum yield point (MPA) of 440; minimum tensile strength (MPA) of 690; minimum elongation of 22% if 1,400 mm to 1,999 mm thickness range; minimum elongation of 23% if 2,000 mm to 2,499 mm thickness range; minimum elongation of 24% if 2,500 mm to 3,249 mm thickness range; minimum elongation of 25% if 3,250 mm to 3,999 mm thickness range; minimum elongation of 26% if 4,000 mm to 6.000 mm thickness range

Variety 3	<p><u>chemical composition:</u> carbon content up to 0.25%, by weight; silicon content up to 2.20%, by weight; manganese content up to 2.20%, by weight; phosphorus content up to 0.025%; sulfur content up to 0.010%</p> <p><u>physical & mechanical properties:</u> thickness range of 1.400 to 6.000 mm (inclusive); minimum yield point (MPA) of 490; minimum tensile strength (MPA) of 780; minimum elongation of 20% if 1,400 mm to 1,999 mm thickness range; minimum elongation of 21% if 2,000 mm to 2,499 mm thickness range; minimum elongation of 22% if 2,500 mm to 3,249 mm thickness range; minimum elongation of 23% if 3,250 mm to 3,999 mm thickness range; minimum elongation of 24% if 4,000 mm to 6.000 mm thickness range</p>
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c. Basis for Exclusion Request:

TRIP Hot-Rolled Steel is used in the production of automotive structural members and bumper reinforcements. TRIP Hot-Rolled Steel exhibits extremely good energy-absorbing capability while maintaining excellent formability. TRIP Hot-Rolled Steel should be excluded from any Section 203 relief because (a) this is a patented product that cannot be produced by U.S. steel mills, and (b) no product produced in the United States is a commercially-viable substitute for TRIP Hot-Rolled Steel.

(a) TRIP Hot-Rolled Steel Is a Patented Product That Cannot Be Produced By U.S. Mills

NSC holds two patents on this product (U.S. Patent Nos. 5,017,248 and 5,030,298) and has an additional patent pending (Application No. 09/308,986). Because no U.S. mill has been licensed to produce TRIP Hot-Rolled Steel, this product is only available from NSC.

(b) There Is No Commercially-Viable Substitute For TRIP Hot-Rolled Steel

To the best of NSC's knowledge, there is no U.S.-manufactured product that is substitutable for NSC's patented TRIP Hot-Rolled Steel.

d. Names and Locations of Any Producers:

NSC is the only producer of this product.

e. Total U.S. Consumption:

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NSC has estimated [

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	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Qty (ST)	[]
Value US \$					

f. Total U.S. Production:

As noted above, there is no U.S. production of this product.

g. U.S.-Produced Substitute, Total U.S. Production of Substitute, and the Names of Any U.S. Producers of the Substitute:

NSC is unaware of any U.S.-manufactured steel products that are commercially-viable substitutes for TRIP Hot-Rolled Steel.